

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6192
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2001
EARNINGS FROM GEM AND JEWELLERY INDUSTRY
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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- (a) whether India is the largest importer of rough diamonds and also the single largest exporter of polished diamonds in the world; (
- (b) if so, the net earnings of the country in foreign exchange from this position of primacy in the gem and jewellery trade as on date; (
- (c) whether any institute to provide training in gem and jewellery industry has been set up by the Government; (
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and (
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to involve goldsmith communities in getting training in this arts?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir.

The Net Foreign Exchange earnings through the exports of diamonds during the last 3 years, are as given below:

(Value in US \$ Millions)

Year	Value of Exports of Diamonds	Value of Imports of Rough Diamonds	Net Foreign Exchanged Earned
1998-99	5026	3343	1683
1999-2000	6648	4812	1836
2000-2001			
(Provisional)	6178	4339	1839

(Source: Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), Mumbai)

The total exports of the gems and jewellery sector during the last 3 years are as given below:

(Value in US \$ Millions)

Year	Total value of exports of Gems & Jewellery
1998-99	5904.05
1999-2000	7636.04
2000-2001 (provisional)	7747.42

Source: (Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGC&S), Calcutta for the years 1998-99, 1999-2000. Provisional figures for 2000-2001 is from GJEPC).

(c) & (d) : Yes, Sir. The Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), a representative body of the trade and sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has been running Jewellery Product Development Centres at Mumbai, Jaipur and New Delhi, Indian Gemmological Institute at New Delhi and Gem Testing Laboratory at Jaipur. It has also drawn up plans for the setting up of a full-fledged Jewellery Design and Development Institute at Mumbai to impart training in all aspects of Jewellery designing and manufacturing. Besides Indian Diamond Institute at Surat which has been set up jointly by the Government of India, State Government of Gujarat and GJEPC, has been imparting professional training in diamond processing. Under its auspices, a new training centre under the name of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Centre of Jewellery Design and Manufacturing is being promoted in the area of Jewellery designing and development at Surat.

(e) The above training centres which are situated at the traditional centres of cutting and polishing of the diamonds and other gemstones, provide training to all communities and as such, traditional communities are also getting adequate opportunities to undergo training to improve their professional skills.